Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(a) 77
(b) No.
(c) Yes. 4 Cochin Restaurants have been closed.
(d) 1,325—12—0.

Rao Sahib A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar):* A certain portion has been given for cultivation.

ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS

1. The lock-out in the Tata Oil Mills Co. Ltd.

Mr. President: I have received three notices of motions for the adjournment of the business of the House. One is by Mr. P. Achyutha Menon and refers to the situation in the Tata Oil Mills Company, Ltd. Will the Hon'ble Member please explain the importance and the urgency of the matter.

***Mr. Puthur Achyutha Menon** *(Kattur):* The Tata Oil Mills is a Company which employs more than 2,000 workers and on a particular day, *i.e.*, on the 4th of April, when 32 workers with pots in their hands for the noon meals went there, without any previous notice, they were asked to leave the Factory. In consequence of that a lightning strike is going on there. The matter is very important because it is without any previous notice that these 32 workers were dismissed and consequently a serious situation has arisen in the Tata Oil Mills which is of public importance and of immediate occurrence which could not be brought to the notice of this Hon'ble House by way of question or resolution because it took place only on the 4th of April. Therefore I bring to the notice of the Chair that this is a matter which comes under that particular section.

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Secretary to Government):* So far as the Government are aware, nothing illegal has been done by the management. The workers had not reasonable ground to go on strike. So, Government do not consider that this is a matter of such public importance as to justify an adjournment of this House.

Mr. President: I am of opinion that the motion is in order and I shall therefore read the motion.

"The grave situation in the Tata Oil Mills Company Ltd., Ernakulam, a firm employing more than 2,000 labourers as the result of an illegal lockout on the morning of the 4th April 1946."

I will ask the Members who support this motion to rise in their places.

As twenty members have risen in support of the motion, I admit it. The motion will be taken up for discussion at 3-30 p.m. tomorrow.

2 and 3. The action taken by Government against three persons under the Restriction and Detention Proclamation

Mr. President: Then Mr. P. Govinda Menon has given two notices, one with reference to the action taken by Government in putting into Prison Mr. Cheriyan Manjuran and another with reference to the action taken by the Government against three public men of Ernakulam, *viz.*, Messrs. Cheriyan Manjuran, Advocate, M. O. Joseph, Journalist and M. M. Varkey, Journalist. Will the Hon'ble Member please explain his motions?

Mr. P. Govinda Menon *(Ernakulam):* Mr. Cheriyan Manjuran who is the President of the Harbour and Port Workers Union and an Advocate of Ernakulam and a subject of His Highness the Maharaja has been detained I understand, under a certain Act passed in 1119. No trial has been ordered. He has been imprisoned without any trial in a court of law. No doubt that Proclamation allows that. But when a person is detained in prison any citizen, under Section 391A of the Criminal Procedure Code can question the validity of the detention and the ground of detention in a court of law, to be more correct in the High Court of Cochin. As soon as this detention was made or immediately before that another legislation has been made making section 391A inapplicable to the present case. Therefore the only place where the public of Cochin can have light on the matter is the Legislative Council. It is a violation of the fundamental right of a citizen that he should be imprisoned without trial in a court of law. No doubt there is an emergency legislation in 1119 and on account of the legislation passed two or

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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